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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8965  
INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 2465  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 1817  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 4571  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1939  
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 2623  
RUEHHK/AMCONSUL HONG KONG 2660  
RUEHBAD/AMCONSUL PERTH 0775  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC//NMJIC-J2//  
RHHJJPI/USPACOM HONOLULU HI  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 000926

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EAP, EAP/MTS, EAP/MLS, EAP/EP  
NSC FOR E.PHU

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [ECON](#) [ID](#)

SUBJECT: EAP DAS MARCIEL'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER

REF: A. JAKARTA 914

[1](#)B. JAKARTA 900

[1](#)C. JAKARTA 888

[1](#)D. JAKARTA 871 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: Pol/C Joseph Legend Novak, reasons 1.4 (b+d).

[1](#)1. (C) SUMMARY: EAP DAS Scot Marciel met Indonesian Presidential Adviser Dino Djalal on May 8 in Jakarta. DAS Marciel conveyed Washington's growing concern over the negative publicity campaign against the Naval Medical Research Unit (NAMRU-2) located in Jakarta. Djalal noted that the Health Minister--who was responsible for the charges--had been warned off by the President. Djalal said the GOI would hike fuel prices soon and would not ban the Islamic Ahmadiyah sect. The two also discussed the Burma relief situation (reported ref A). END SUMMARY.

[1](#)2. (C) NAVAL MEDICAL RESEARCH UNIT: DAS Marciel visited Jakarta, May 7-8. In his meeting with Presidential Adviser Dino Djalal, Marciel remarked that Washington was concerned over the negative publicity that Health Minister Supari was stirring up against the U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit (NAMRU-2) in Jakarta. Djalal noted that he was one of Supari's targets and that Supari had broken one of the President's tacit rules that members of the administration did not attack one another publicly. Supari had a political agenda, he commented. But now she had been "explicitly warned" by President Yudhoyono to cease her campaign against NAMRU, Djalal said. (Note: This confirms other reports we have received -- ref B.)

[1](#)3. (C) FUEL PRICE RISE COMING: Djalal said the government would raise the price of fuel soon (ref D). The problem was timing. President Yudhoyono was planning to visit Europe in early June and the price hike would probably need to occur before that trip. That said, Indonesia would celebrate its "Centenary of National Awakening" on May 20 and the President did not want protests over fuel price increases to mar that day. (Note: The May 20 commemoration celebrates the beginning of the Indonesian nationalist movement in 1908.)

[1](#)4. (C) GOI WILL NOT BAN RELIGIOUS SECT: The government was not going to ban the Ahmadiyah sect, Djalal said, despite a joint recommendation from the Coordinating Board for

Monitoring Mystical Beliefs in Society (Bakor Pakem) and the Attorney General's Office (ref. C). Ahmadiyah groups had long lived peacefully in Indonesia--he cited a community that lived down the street from his wife's family in Banten, west of Jakarta--and had not disturbed anyone. "We have such holy men in our Javanese history books, so what is the difference?," he asked rhetorically.

¶5. (C) FIGHTING ULTRANATIONALISM: There were many in the country, Djalal said, who wanted to politicize everything, from fuel and food prices to so-called deviant Islamic sects. Their strategy was to fan the flames of ultranationalism. In that sphere, reason no longer prevailed. The president's strategy in countering this would be to try to keep issues firmly in the center of the political spectrum, moderate and unpoliticized.

¶6. (U) DAS Marciel approved this message.

HUME